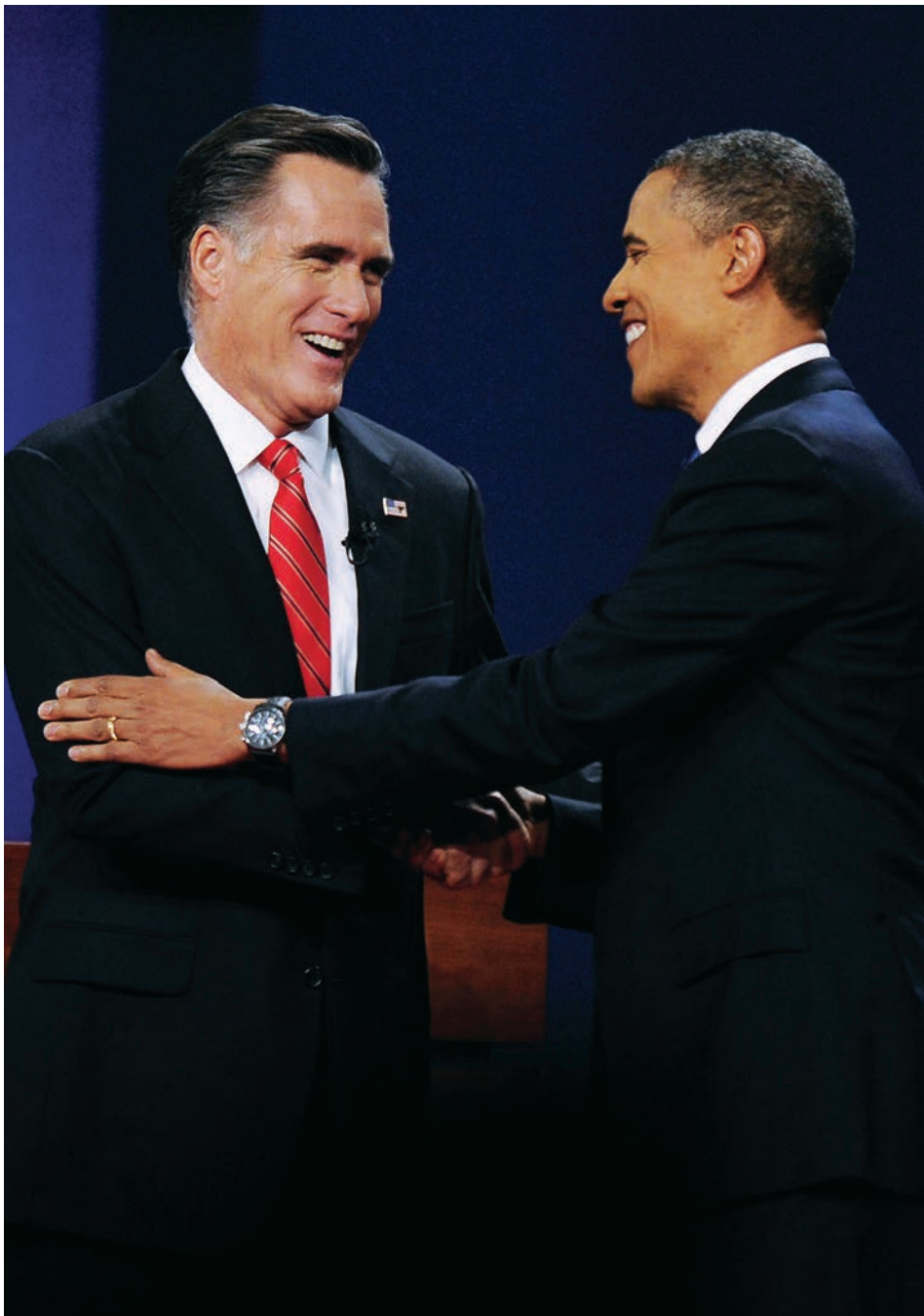


★ ELECTION 2012 ★

The Presidential Debates



Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, left, and U.S. President Barack Obama shake hands before the first presidential debate at Denver University on Wednesday, October 3, 2012, in Denver, Colorado. **Photo by Zhang Jun / MCT**

Mitt Romney

Republican
former Governor
of Massachusetts



“I’m sorry, Jim, **I’m gonna stop the subsidy to PBS...** I like PBS. I love Big Bird. I actually like you, too.”

“Look, I got five boys. **I’m used to people saying something that’s not always true**, but just keep on repeating it and ultimately hoping I will believe it.”

“You’re entitled Mr. President, as the president, to your own airplane and your own house, **but not your own facts.**”

Photo by Gage Skidmore

Barack Obama

Democrat
incumbent president,
former U.S. Senator



“Under Gov. Romney’s plan, **Donald Trump is a small businessman.**”

“If you believe that we can cut taxes by \$5 trillion, and add \$2 trillion in additional spending that the military is not asking for, and you think that by closing loopholes and deductions for the well-to-do somehow you will not end up picking up the tab, **then Gov. Romney’s plan may work for you.**”

“..But I think math, common sense and our history shows that’s **not a recipe for job growth.**”

photo by The Obama-Biden Transition Project

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★ ELECTION 2012 ★

News, below: Students watch the first of three presidential debate together at several local events

Opinion, p. 8: Voter turnout is lowest among young Americans between the ages of 18 to 24. Is this the sign of indifference or ignorance?

News, p. 10: Photo spread of local viewing events

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ELECTION 2012

Students, voters tune in for debate

By Melanie Martinez and Devon Thames
staff writers

Students of Pi Sigma Alpha, SJSU’s political science fraternity, filled the conference room of downtown San Jose’s Hilton to observe yesterday’s presidential debate.

President Obama and Republican candidate Mitt Romney squared off in a 90-minute debate that covered hot topics such as the economy, social security, health care and the role of federal government.

“Everyone’s excited,” said Sol Jobrack, President of Pi Sigma Alpha. “There’s people from both sides, and both candidates are very highly educated people.”

Students of Pi Sigma Alpha said they anticipated the debates



Viewers laugh as they watch the first Presidential debate between Republican candidate Mitt Romney and President Barack Obama. **Photo by Basil Sar / Contributing Photographer**

and had predictions on who they thought would win, said Jobrack.

“I feel like Obama has a lot of material to look back on and just has more experience,” said Heather Daniel, a senior political science major and member of Pi Sigma Alpha.

Daniel said that after Romney’s recent gaffes, she doesn’t see him pulling to the top of the polls and

Obama’s work earns him re-election.

Jason Wilson, a senior in political science, said he became a Pi Sigma Alpha member on Tuesday and was excited to become more politically active.

“I’m here as a spectator,” Wilson said. “This is the biggest thing since the Super Bowl.”

While Wilson said he’s an

Obama supporter, he was looking forward to hearing arguments from the Republican Party.

Other Pi Sigma Alpha members said while the debates were interesting, they didn’t think they would change much.

“I feel like their policies are so different, you don’t need to see the

SEE **DEBATE** ON PAGE 4

SATELLITE

SJSU NASA partnership sends satellite into orbit

By Jacque Orvis
@jorvis

The International Space Station launched a cube-shaped satellite into orbit this morning that was built by SJSU students in partnership with NASA Ames.

About four-inch-cubed in size and 2.6 pounds, the satellite — or TechEdSat — is the first of its kind, according to SJSU aerospace engineering alumna Ali Guarneros Luna.

“The SJSU team is one-of-its-kind in this field,” said Guarneros Luna, mission manager of the team

of 12 SJSU students and nine NASA Ames scientists who designed and built the cube satellite.

“We are the first ones and only ones that know how to do it in all NASA agency-wide.”

She added that she is a systems engineer for NASA Ames Research Center, a NASA satellite facility in Mountain View involved in small spacecraft, supercomputer and astrobiology research.

Luna said the team started building and testing the cube satellite in October 2011.

According to Guarneros Luna, the team worked on the satellite at

NASA Ames and at TechShop in San Jose, which is a membership-based workshop with machinery, tools and equipment available.

“A record by all standards,” said Periklis Papadopoulos, co-principle investigator and SJSU adviser for the project.

According to Papadopoulos, four other cube satellites are on board the International Space Station — three are from Japan and one is from Vietnam.

John Hines, an SJSU aerospace and engineering mentor and NASA Ames chief technologist, said he chose SJSU students to build the

satellite because he wanted to give them the opportunity to build spaceflight hardware.

“I’ve been interested in demonstrating that we could bring and train a next generation workforce,” he said. “Demonstrate the first deployment of nanosats from (the International Space Station) and done using a university project team.”

Guarneros Luna said she gained experience on building and launching hardware for NASA and the International Space Station and learned to avoid hazards as well as

SEE **NASA** ON PAGE 2

STUDENT LIFE

Students prepare for LSAT, step toward their dreams

By Kimberley Diaz
@SD_KDiaz

Michael Panelli, a senior justice studies major, has been studying for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) for a while, but his practice test scores are not where he would like them to be.

If he doesn't reach his score goal, he won't be able to attend law school next fall and his dreams of being a court judge will be dashed.

Senior English major Katrina Swanson is also planning to take the LSAT, but with her demanding workload of being on the SJSU Forensics debate team, essays and other assignments, studying for the LSAT is proving to be stressful.

The LSAT is an exam required for students interested in attending law school.

The exam focuses on reading comprehension, analytical and logical reasoning questions and writing, according to pre-law adviser Rita Manning.

In order to pass the LSAT, students need to be ready to commit to many hours of studying, to learn how to quickly break down arguments and to understand complicated passages and dense material, according to Panelli.

Manning always suggests that students take preparation tests and courses, as it is one of the sure ways to know which areas you need to improve.

"It's like a full-time job," Manning said. "It takes a whole summer if you can do

it. Some people take a year off to study for it."

The LSAT scores are measured using a scale of 120-180 possible points, according to the Law School Admission Council.

There is no "pass or fail," but law schools will admit students based on how high they score.

To prepare for the exam, Panelli has done most of his studying on his own.

He's studying from several practice books, talked to people from test-preparation websites like Kaplan Test Preparation and Princeton Review, as well as taken several practice exams.

Panelli's practice exam scores, however, have been averaging in the 130 mark, and he really regrets not taking any preparation classes.

"It's a lot of work and a lot of stuff to know," Panelli said. "The practice tests are a nightmare, and the test itself is a nightmare. It's extremely challenging, and it takes a lot out of you."

Swanson has also done most of her own studying, as well as taken several Kaplan preparation tests and received advice from family members who have taken the LSAT before.

When she took practice tests, Swanson wasn't afraid to see what kind of score she would get.

Now that the actual exam is on its way, Swanson feels more anxious, but has hope that it will go well.

"I think when the day comes, its one of those things that it won't take me



Senior English major Katrina Swanson studying for the LSAT at the King Library. **Photo by Jessica Olthof / Spartan Daily**

as much time as I think it will," Swanson said.

If Panelli gets the score needed to get in, he hopes to attend Santa Clara University next fall.

Swanson also hopes to attend Santa Clara University or UC Berkeley.

Santa Clara University requires an average score between 157 and 161, and UC Berkeley requires a score between 164 and 169, according to the Top 2012 Law School Rankings.

Swanson's participation in SJSU's Forensics team is what inspired her to want to go to law school and get into politics.

Eventually, she would like to become a lobbyist, someone

who can represent a company or union and make their cases known to representatives.

"It's a direct access to advocating for a group that doesn't have its voice heard a lot in political chambers," Swanson said.

Swanson feels confident in her choice to become a lobbyist and wants to use that career to possibly represent a company that is for green energy.

"Green energy is something that people talk about a lot, but we actually don't do anything about," Swanson said. "So I think it would be really cool to link Silicon Valley and green energy to politics."

Panelli said that as a child, he has always wanted to help others. Becoming a court judge was an ideal fit.

"One of my grandfather's uncle's is a supreme court judge, and there's a building named after him in Santa Clara," Panelli said. "There's this heritage of long law enforcement in my family and I just want to carry it on."

Edward Panelli, Panelli's distant relative, has worked over 17 years in private practice, 22 years on the bench and many years as a mediator and arbitrator.

Panelli said he was one of his inspirations for wanting to go into law practice.

"I never met him, but I've

heard a lot about him and learned a lot about him," Panelli said. "He kind of built up my last name as well respected."

Another inspiration for Panelli came in the form of shock when he discovered he had a disease called Achalasia four years ago, which affects the muscle in the esophagus and is the inability to open and let food pass through and into the stomach.

When Panelli was first diagnosed, he was in and out of hospitals and lost over 100 pounds.

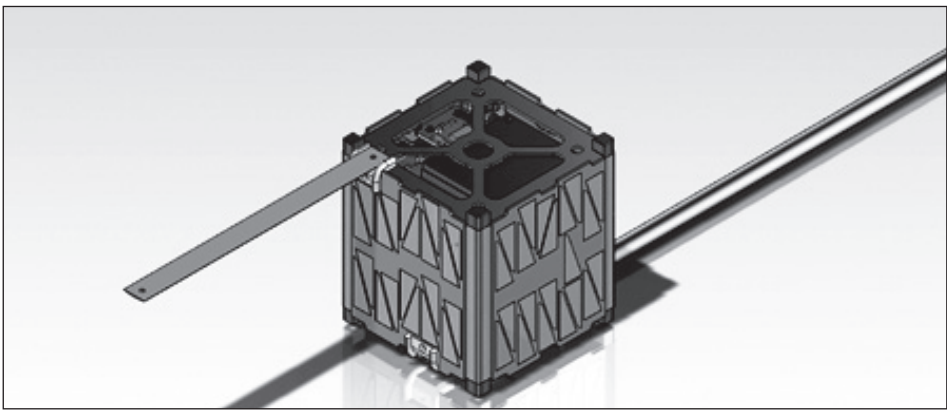
However, it fired up his dream to be a judge and help others even more.

"It really changed everything about me," Panelli said. "I could see how quickly something could be taken from you. I want to help people and I feel like the best way for me to do that is through law and make sure people are being treated equally and fairly."

Attending and graduating law school would be a dream come true, especially after the discovery of his disease.

"Obviously, I would have a degree a lot of people would want," Panelli said. "But it is also kind of a self-esteem boost in a way because I've gone through a lot of stuff in my life, a lot of adversity. To be able to say, 'I'm a law school graduate, I can now practice law,' that I feel like would be an extreme accomplishment for me."

Kimberley Diaz is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @SD_KDiaz.



TechEdSat is a NASA Ames Research Center 1U CubeSat built by San Jose State University students in partnership with AAC Microtec. **Photo courtesy of techedsat.com**

NASA: Big dreams, small satellite

FROM PAGE 1

how to get through certification processes.

"We had technical difficulties on the development, testing and certification of it," she said. "However, we (proved) that it can be done right to the NASA standards."

According to Papadopoulos, the satellite was deployed to the International Space Station from Japan last July and was launched today into low Earth orbit for a communications experiment.

Specifically, the satellite's mission is to evalu-

ate Space Plug-and-Play Avionics designed in Sweden by AAC Microtec, according to the TechEdSat team.

Space Plug-and-Play Avionics is similar to USB technology for space components, according to Hines.

Hines said the satellite will be in orbit for ten to 30 days before it descends and burns up in the Earth's atmosphere.

Jacque Orvis is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @jorvis.

STUDENT UNION STUDENT APPRECIATION FESTIVAL

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COMMENTARY

A’s clinch division crown, Bay Area teams expected to go far

By James Simpson
@JimmerSimpson

With the odor of celebratory champagne still on them, players from the ten remaining Major League Baseball (MLB) teams will take the field, starting Friday, in the baseball postseason.

Yes, playoff baseball is finally here, and it has a lot to live up to after the regular season concluded with a bang yesterday.

Similar to the last-day drama that went down at the end of the 2011 season, the final games did not disappoint as two divisions were decided in the American League (AL).

With the last of the National League (NL) teams all wrapped up on Tuesday, the Oakland A’s swept the Texas Rangers to take the AL West crown yesterday, after Texas had owned the top spot since early April.

The New York Yankees also took care of business yesterday for the number one seed in the AL, beating the Boston Red Sox 14-2 and holding off the Baltimore Orioles for the AL East championship.

The Rangers and Baltimore Orioles will settle into the newly introduced one-game wild card round for the chance to face the Yankees, while the Detroit Tigers await No. 2 seed Oakland.

In the National League, the wild card features 2011 champion St. Louis Cardinals traveling to Atlanta to square off against the Chipper Jones-led Braves.

The San Francisco Giants escaped a lot of drama this year by taking the NL West fairly early after the Fortune 500 Los Angeles Dodgers – as in, paying a fortune to play .500 – fizzled down the stretch to end up 86-76.

The Giants will play the Cincinnati Reds, who employ one of the enigmatic fireball pitchers in the league, Aroldis Chapman.

The Washington Nationals have the top spot in the NL after they led the league in victories with 98.

They will await the winner of the matchup between the Braves and Cardinals, with home field advantage all throughout the playoffs.

Let’s look at the first round contests starting with that wild card contest between Atlanta and St. Louis, a battle that has some fascinating story lines attached.

You might recall the late season collapse of the Braves in 2011, falling apart in September and losing on the last day of the season, allowing the eventual World Series champion Cardinals entrance into the postseason.

After an announced retirement and a season of standing ovations in visitor’s ballparks, it certainly feels like Jones and the Braves don’t want its season to end.

The Cardinals finished 88-74 and had a respectable season after the departure of legendary manager Tony LaRussa. Heading on the road in a do-or-die game against the veteran leadership of Jones and the surprising pitching of Kris Medlen spells

one-and-done for St. Louis.

That same Braves pitching is likely to be no match for the Nationals in the NLDS, as they have the steady hitting and deep pitching to outlast Atlanta in a five-game series.

Nationals pitcher Gio Gonzalez had the most wins in the league this year, and No.2 starter Jordan Zimmermann is as efficient as they come.

Add on the hot hitting of phenomenon Bryce Harper, and the Nationals are set up for a long stay in the postseason.

The Giants look like they have solved their long-time hitting woes even without Melky Cabrera down the stretch. They seem to have a different team identity heading into playoffs than they did in 2010.

While the story of pitcher Barry Zito has been remarkable, the fall of Tim Lincecum has been worse.

Despite that, the front of their rotation is still solid and the play of catcher Buster Posey should be enough to hold off the Reds, who have had their troubles going deep into the playoffs.

On the American League side, I smell a blowup of a Rangers team that limps into the postseason with some of the worst momentum a playoff team could ever have.

Without sufficient time to lick their wounds, a one-game playoff against the Orioles spells the start of off-season disaster that could deprive them of some of that talent that they have been known



Oakland Athletics manager Bob Melvin, right, is emotional as he hugs Seth Smith as they celebrate their win over the Texas Rangers 12-5 to win the American League West divisional title yesterday. Photo by Jane Tyska / MCT

for the last few years.

I’ve definitely learned to not magnify the A’s too much, as they have taken the league by storm in a way that defies baseball logic.

While Detroit has the series advantage over them in the regular season, it’s hard to argue that Oakland and their major league-leading 14 walk-off wins aren’t the most dangerous team in the postseason right now.

That magic should carry them past Detroit and

triple-crown winner Miguel Cabrera.

That leaves the Yankees, who would then play the predicted AL East rival Orioles in the ALDS.

I don’t predict a big playoff run for the Yankees, but they know the Orioles well and Yankee Stadium in October is a tough task.

Like the A’s, the Orioles have the Cinderella feel of their own, and the “nobody believes in us” attitude

simply cannot be understated.

But the pitching is young and even a familiar Yankees matchup is wrong for them in a playoff series.

There’s something great brewing in Baltimore, but they won’t go past the ALDS.

Whatever your team, welcome to playoff baseball.

James Simpson is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @JimmerSimpson.



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PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Candidates clash over economy, taxes, health care

By David Lightman and Anita Kumar
McClatchy Tribune

DENVER — With the presidency hanging in the balance, President Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney clashed sharply Wednesday in their first debate, trying to convince voters they’re uniquely qualified to lead the country to full recovery from the worst economic downturn since the 1930s.

The two men sparred from the opening minutes over their competing visions of government and whether it should help lead the way to a better economy or get out of the way. Each also repeatedly accused the other of promoting damaging policies on such issues as taxes, spending, health care and business regulation that made or would make things worse, not better.

“We’ve begun to fight our way back,” Obama said, arguing that he has helped turn around the economy but needs four more years to finish the job. “We’ve still got a lot of work to do.”

Romney countered by noting his encounters with people who have approached him in recent days asking for help finding work for themselves or their families. “We can help, but it’s going to take a different path,” Romney said. “The path that we’re on has been unsuccessful. Trickle-down government will not work.”

They met at the University of Denver, standing on a stage with the texts of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence over their shoulders at a time when the country remains closely divided between the two and millions of Americans are looking for the best path to restore jobs and paychecks.

Romney tended to be more fiery and aggressive, offering a starkly different menu of changes in how Americans are taxed and seniors get health care, a performance that could help him get his struggling campaign back on track. Obama tried to paint Romney as extreme and irresponsible, but he appeared defensive at times, pursing his lips and looking down rather than at Romney.

The two, who have met a handful of times, were cordial with each other, addressing each as “Mr. President” and “Governor” before they launched their fact-filled attacks. They even laughed about sharing a stage on the Obamas’ 20th wedding anniversary.



Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, left, and U.S. President Barack Obama attend the first presidential debate at Denver University on Wednesday, October 3, 2012, in Denver, Colorado. **Photo by Zhang Jun / MCT**

But they were resolute in their arguments, each aggressively defending his proposals or criticizing the other even when moderator Jim Lehrer tried to stop them after they exceeded time limits.

Romney argued that Obama has presided over a weak recovery that has “crushed” the middle class.

“Under the president’s policies, middle-income Americans have been buried,” Romney said. “They’re just being crushed. Middle-income Americans have seen their income come down by \$4,300. This is a tax in and of itself. I’ll call it the economy tax. It’s been crushing. At the same time, gasoline prices have doubled under the president. Electric rates are up. Food prices are up. Health care costs have gone up by \$2,500 a family. Middle-income families are being crushed.”

He tore into Obama’s signature domestic achievement, the 2010 health care law, calling it a misplaced priority at a time that Americans yearned mostly for jobs.

“I just don’t know how the president could have come into office, facing 23 million people out of work, rising unemployment, an economic crisis at the kitchen table, and spend his energy and passion for two years fighting for Obamacare instead of fighting for jobs for the American people,” he said.

The president accused Romney of wanting to give tax breaks to the wealthy instead of helping the middle class, which he said would create jobs and boost the economy.

We’ve still got a lot of work to do.

President Barack Obama

“Governor Romney has a perspective that says if we cut taxes skewed toward the wealthy and cut regulations, we’ll be better off. I have a different view,” he said.

Obama said he supports a “balanced approach” of tax cuts and increased spending. He said he would stress education and training, calling for a “new economic patriotism” that says “America does best when the middle class does best.”

Romney repeatedly said descriptions of his tax plan were not true, and he accused the president of distorting his proposals. He wants to extend George W. Bush-era tax cuts that lowered the tax

rate paid by Americans at all income levels and enact additional cuts.

“Virtually everything he said about my tax plan is inaccurate.... My plan is not like anything that has been tried before,” Romney said. “Going forward with the status quo is not going to cut it anymore.”

Obama suggested that corporate tax rates should go down, but he also wants to close loopholes for companies shipping jobs overseas. On energy, Obama said, he and Romney agree domestic energy production needs to be boosted. But Obama also wants to promote “energy sources of the future,” like wind and biofuels.

Romney said he was “not looking to cut massive taxes” and pledged “no tax cut that adds to the deficit,” though he would not provide specifics. Romney would retain Bush-era tax cuts and slice income tax rates 20 percent across the board. Obama would retain the Bush rates only for families earning less than \$250,000 and individuals making less than \$200,000.

Taxes and the deficit dominated the first part of the 90-minute showdown between the two presidential candidates, the first of three nationally televised face-offs with an audience expected to total in the tens of millions. But also on the list was health care, the role of government and Social Security and Medicare.

Both Obama and Romney insisted they know how important it is to cut the nation’s debt. Obama said he has tried to cut the debt that has ballooned because of the cost of two wars, tax cuts and government programs that were not paid for. He insisted that he worked with Democrats and Republicans to cut a trillion dollars and is working to convince a divided Congress to cut \$4 trillion from the projected deficit.

“It’s on a website. You can look at all the numbers, what cuts we make and what revenue we raise,” he said.

But Romney said Obama had time to reduce the deficit and failed. The nation faces devastating cuts that are the result of a bipartisan deal struck last year to raise the nation’s debt ceiling. Congress agreed that if a 12-member committee failed to reduce the deficit by \$1.2 trillion over the next decade, the cuts would come from government spending. The first round is set to start in January.

“I mean, you have said before you’d cut the deficit in half. And this — I love this idea of \$4 trillion in cuts. You found \$4 trillion of ways to reduce or to get closer to a balanced budget, except we still show trillion-dollar deficits every year. That doesn’t get the job done,” Romney said.

They also clashed on health care, and few issues di-

vide the candidates and their parties more than that issue. The 2010 federal health care law championed by Obama would require nearly everyone to get coverage by 2014. Romney sees the plan as a dangerous government takeover.

They also differ on how seniors should obtain care. Obama wants to retain traditional Medicare, which faces a severe financial crisis. He would save \$716 billion from anticipated spending in the future; part of that money would be saved by having an independent commission recommend ways to cut costs.

Romney fired away at that notion and insisted his plan, which would provide federal help for seniors so they could choose Medicare or a private plan, was far more efficient.

“I know my own view is I’d rather have a private plan. I’d just as soon not have the government telling me what kind of health care I get. I’d rather be able to have an insurance company. If I don’t like them, I can get rid of them and find a different insurance company. But people make their own choice,” he said.

No, Obama countered. Private plans will insure the healthiest seniors, leaving Medicare to take the most ailing. “And when you move to a voucher system, you are putting seniors at the mercy of those insurance companies. And over time, if traditional Medicare has decayed or fallen apart, then they’re stuck,” the president said.

Obama recalled how Romney signed into law the Massachusetts health care plan widely seen as a model for the federal program.

“There’s a reason why Governor Romney set up the plan that he did in Massachusetts. It wasn’t a government takeover of health care. It was the largest expansion of private insurance,” Obama said.

Romney defended his plan, noting that it raised no taxes. But, he added, “The federal government taking over health care for the entire nation and whisking aside the 10th Amendment, which gives states the rights for these kinds of things, is not the course for America to have a stronger, more vibrant economy. But what it does say is that insurers, you’ve got to take everybody.”

The candidates will debate again Oct. 16 in Hempstead, N.Y., and on Oct. 22 in Boca Raton, Fla. Vice President Joe Biden will debate Republican nominee Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin on Oct. 11 in Danville, Ky.

Debate: Viewers respond to initial Obama, Romney debate

FROM PAGE 1
debates,” said Vincent Tice, a senior political science major.

Allen Wong, a senior political science major, said the debates were important, but he didn’t feel that they would affect voter’s opinions significantly.

As the debate began, students filled the Hilton’s conference room to capacity where many were left to find seats on the floor.

Moderator, Jim Lehrer, of PBS, said the audience was to remain silent throughout the debate but there were no rules for the Pi Sigma Alpha fraternity members, who cheered and applauded a blue-tie-wearing Obama, as he began his introductory statement.

Sparse but enthusiastic applause filtered the air as Pi Sigma Alpha’s few Republican Party members rooted for Romney during his introduction.

As the debate ensued, both candidates earned rounds of applause intermittently.

However, Obama supporters gave a louder round of applause than Romney’s, particularly when candidates presented their closing statements.

Though, as the debate came to a conclusion, fraternity members of both parties had mixed reactions to the debate.

Stephanie O’Dowd, a senior political science major,

said that while she’s a Romney supporter, both candidates made good points.

“Well of course I’d like to say Romney, but I think it was pretty fair,” O’Dowd said. “I think that they both made equally great points and that it could go to either of them.”

Wong said he thinks Obama took the debate because he thought Romney failed to provide specific details on his economic plans.

“How is he (Romney) going to make 12 million jobs,” Wong said. “Nobody knows.”

After his viewing of the debate, Wilson said his Obama support is still strong because of his statements on education.

“My focus was education as a college student,” Wilson said. “He touched on some subjects that I couldn’t relate to with Romney.”

Daniel said she thought Romney won the debate even though she was an Obama supporter.

“I think that Obama could have had a lot more passion,” Daniel said. “I think he had a lot of dirt on Romney.”

Overall, Daniel said she wasn’t impressed with the debate, hoping Obama would touch more on his own policies than on attacking Romney.

Brittney Purcell, a sophomore political science major, said she is a Romney supporter and thought his

attention to policy at the debate would win over liberal voters.

“I think its going to bring a lot of people over to Romney,” Purcell said.

Melinda Jackson, political science professor, said that Romney outperformed Obama at the debate.

“I think that Romney had more ground to make up and I think that he did a great job,” Jackson said.

Despite the possible bump in polls Romney could receive for his performance, Jackson said it may not change the election much.

After watching the debate, Jobrack said he remains undecided but enjoyed watching both candidates.

“I thought they both sounded great,” Jobrack said. “You didn’t see a lot of main stances or main points, but I would be interested to see the fact checks on both sides.”

Enrique Navarro, freshman political science major, said he was a conservative Republican who was pleased with Romney’s progress in public speaking.

“He (Romney) fixed a lot of his former speech issues and more eloquently portrayed himself in the debate,” Navarro said. “Obama, on the other hand ... was just more of the same.”

Melanie Martinez and Devon Thames are Spartan Daily staff writers. Follow them on Twitter at @melteinez and @dtspartan.

WORLD NEWS

Turkish military and Syrians exchange artillery rounds

By Roy Gutman
McClatchy Tribune

ISTANBUL — Turkey announced Wednesday that it had fired artillery at Syrian military positions in retaliation for mortar rounds from inside Syria that killed five civilians in a house just inside the Turkish border.

It was the first known exchange of fire between Turkey and Syria since a Turkish-backed uprising against Syrian President Bashar Assad began nearly 20 months ago. It was the most serious incident between the two countries since June, when Syria shot down a Turkish reconnaissance aircraft that had violated Syrian airspace.

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the Syrian mortar fire landed in Akcakale, a checkpoint in southeastern Turkey that straddles the border with Syria, at 4:30 p.m. local time. Turkish artillery immediately responded, Erdogan said, under standing orders that were rewritten after the June shoot-down.

It was not immediately clear where the Syrian units were that Turkey targeted or what weapons Turkey used to respond. The dead in Akcakale were a mother and her four children, the town's mayor told Turkish news outlets. Nine other people were wounded.

In a statement, NATO, to which Turkey belongs, "strongly condemned" the Syrian mortar attack and

pledged to stand by Turkey. The alliance "demands the immediate cessation of such aggressive acts against an ally and urges the Syrian regime to put an end to the flagrant violations of international law." But it stopped well short of issuing a threat or saying what steps would follow another incident.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said the United States was "outraged that the Syrians have been shooting across the border." She said the situation in Syria was "very, very dangerous" and called for a cease-fire, an end to the Syrian government "assaulting their own people" and the beginning of a process of political transition.

Syria's information minister, Omran Zoabi, said Syria was investigating where the mortar rounds that struck Turkey had originated and offered condolences, saying Syria regretted the loss of life. He also urged Turkey and other countries to stop armed rebels from entering Syria.

Tensions have been high along the Syrian-Turkish border for months, as rebels battling to topple the Assad government have seized a series of border crossings, including, most recently, Akcakale. Turkish news media reported that there has been fighting in the border area for the past three weeks, but it was not clear whether there was combat on Wednesday.

On Friday, after mortars damaged 20 properties and

injured three civilians in Akcakale, Turkey formally complained to Syria, and the country's foreign minister, Ahmet Davitoglu, publicly warned that Turkey would respond if there were another incident.

Erdogan's announcement of the retaliatory strike came six hours after three mortar rounds landed in Akcakale.

"This abhorrent attack was responded to by our armed forces in the border region immediately," Erdogan said in a statement. "Syrian positions, detected by radar, were fired upon with artillery."

Erdogan's statement said Turkey's response was in line with the military's rules of engagement, a set of standing orders on the time and circumstances for using lethal weapons, revised after the June shoot-down.

He said that under its own rules of engagement and international law, Turkey "will never leave such provocations against our national security by the Syrian regime unanswered."

At Turkey's request, NATO representatives held an emergency session to discuss the incident. Erdogan said Foreign Minister Davitoglu also contacted the members of the U.N. Security Council and NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen. Davitoglu said he also had contacted U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and special U.N. Syria negotiator Lakhdar Brahimi.

Ban urged Syria to respect



Syrian refugees has surged since rebels launched an offensive in July to seize Aleppo, Syria's largest city, which lies about 50 miles from Akcakale.

Syrian artillery fire, sometimes from a distance, has crossed the border before. In the area around the Syrian-Turkish border crossing near the Syrian city of Kasab, the woods on both sides of the mountainous border are burned from Syrian shelling.

Meanwhile, SANA, Syria's state news agency, reported that at least 34 people were killed and 122 injured in a series of suicide car bombings in Aleppo on Wednesday that the government blamed on rebel forces.

The news agency said two car bombs were detonated in the city's Saadallah al-Jabri Square shortly before 8 a.m., stripping buildings of their facades and leaving deep craters in the streets. Another car, this one loaded with 1,100 pounds of explosives, exploded 25 minutes later outside the provincial capital building. At the same time, two mortar rounds fell near Aleppo's city hall, SANA reported.

The final blast came at 10:35 a.m., the news agency reported, as security officers were attempting to disarm a car bomb carrying more than a ton of explosives. The explosion, which SANA said had been triggered by remote control, ripped through the Aleppo Chamber of Commerce and the Central Bank.

the territorial integrity of its neighbors and to stop shooting at its own people.

"The secretary-general has repeatedly warned that the ongoing militarization of the conflict in Syria is leading to tragic results for the Syrian people," he said in a statement.

"Today's incidents, where firing from Syria struck a Turkish town, again demonstrated how Syria's conflict is threatening not only the

security of the Syrian people but increasingly causing harm to its neighbors," it said.

Turkey has openly sided with the rebels, who Syria says routinely take shelter inside Turkey. But Turkey denies accusations that it has given any direct military help to the armed groups.

An estimated 90,000 Syrians have taken refuge inside Syria as fighting has raged in that country. The number of

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TELEVISION REVIEW

Fall television: What to see and what to avoid

By Jonathan Roisman
@jroisman



Photo courtesy of policymic.com

Watch:
“Revolution”

NBC, 10 p.m.
Monday

One minute the power is on and the next a global blackout leaves the planet stuck in the 19th century.

Seemingly defying the laws of physics, electricity no longer works. Fifteen years later, society has collapsed and various militias control small regions of territory across what was once the United States.

Centered on a family living on a makeshift farm outside of Chicago, Charlotte “Charlie” Matheson (Tracy Spiridakos) is tasked with finding her brother, Danny (Graham Rogers), who has been kidnapped by the ruling government while avenging the death of her father, who may have known the secret of turning the power back on.

The J.J. Abrams-produced show’s premise is refreshing for network television, although if you’re looking for good acting or original storytelling, you’ll be disappointed.

Character development isn’t the show’s strongest suit, but swordplay and gun battles pay off for fans of warfare and medieval adventure.

Consider “Revolution” a guilty pleasure that will keep you coming back each week without any regrets.



Photo courtesy of voiceoftv.com

Watch:
“Last Resort”

ABC, 8 p.m.
Thursday

TV’s most ambitious new show has a lot on its plate, but the writing and execution are near perfect in the pilot.

“Last Resort’s” begins when the nuclear submarine USS Colorado is ordered to launch a nuclear attack on targets in Pakistan.

The ship’s captain, Marcus Chaplin (Andre Braugher) doesn’t believe the authentication of his orders and mutinies, taking his ship and crew to an isolated island in the Indian Ocean.

The characters are well fleshed-out, and a lot of mystery surrounds most of them.

The political-military thriller material is something you would expect on cable television, so it’s good to see the networks can still make a compelling drama.

The show feels more like a fast-paced Hollywood blockbuster, and it may have trouble sustaining the energy it showed in the pilot, but “Last Resort” could be the best new drama on television this year.



Photo courtesy of poptower.com

Watch:
“The Mindy Project”

Fox, 9:30 p.m.
Tuesday

Mindy Kaling jumped ship two seasons too late on “The Office,” but at least she finally has her own show.

Kaling is a witty and obnoxious 31-year-old doctor who has a bit of a breakdown after her boyfriend (Saturday Night Live’s Bill Hader) dumps her and marries someone else.

The plot is overly familiar, but the writing is clever and even more pop-culturally relevant than “Community.”

The show does a fantastic job of using cameos in the pilot and it’s clear that Kaling can carry her own sitcom.

Kaling’s character is impulsive and abrasive – a good person whose done bad things. It’s clear, however, that she’s a thoughtful person who puts others first.

Her writing talents were wasted on “The Office” the past few years, and her character grew stale and confining like the rest of the cast.

Luckily, she finally has a new outlet to express her previously unseen talent.



Photo courtesy of poptower.com

Skip:
“Animal Practice”

NBC, 8 p.m.
Wednesday

If you can imagine a generic sitcom with mediocre writing, a decent cast with no material to work with and hackneyed plotlines, “Animal Practice” would be that show.

They only thing that might throw you off is a monkey with a lab coat who runs around a doctors office.

Justin Kirk of “Weeds” fame plays veterinarian George Coleman, a cocky do-gooder who thinks and knows that he’s smarter than everyone around him.

Kirk has acting chops, but you would never know it on this show.

His supporting cast appears talented, but the writing is plain horrible at times save for a suicidal cat in the first scene of the pilot.

It’s understandable that animal lovers might be drawn to this show, but it doesn’t make what they’re watching good television.

There are plenty of ways to waste 22 minutes, and “Animal Practice” isn’t worthy of your time.

Read more stories online at www.spartandaily.com

AUTHOR PANEL

‘Being Flynn’ creator discusses memoir

By Sage Curtis
@sagedanielle

Poet and memoirist Nick Flynn read his work to an audience of about 50 people in the Engineering building on Wednesday night as part of San Francisco’s Litquake series.

On the heels of Tuesday night’s presentation of the movie, “Being Flynn,” based on his memoir “Another Bullshit Night in Suck City,” Flynn read passages from all his work that demonstrated its interconnectivity.

At the start of the presentation, Andrew Altschul, director of the Center for Literary Arts at SJSU, assured the audience that the hour-and-a-half presentation was the best way to spend the evening.

“We were watching a bit of the debate before we started,” he said. “I can assure you that it was not nearly as exciting as listening to Nick read is going to be.”

Flynn read his poems and passages from his memoirs,

starting with his earliest works and moving through the progression of time in order to tie in the movie.

“I like to read them and let you see how they connect,” Flynn said. “I tried to find a poem about California. I was in a café in Santa Cruz and someone walked in carrying a large stone – I thought ‘only in California,’ so I wrote this poem. It’s called ‘20 Pound Stone.’”

In addition to his first memoir, Flynn read from his poetry works “Some Ether,” “Blind Huber” and his more recent memoirs, “The Ticking Is the Bomb” and “Re-enactment.”

“Re-enactment” looks at the process of making his first memoir into the movie.

“It seemed crazy to me to write a book, then make a movie and then write a book about making a movie,” Flynn asked. “Well, I guess it’s just going to keep going on and on until we die. It’s what I do. There’s a lot of downtime on a movie set, and I filled up a few notebooks of my observations.”

Flynn’s work centers on his experiences with his absent father later in life, who had an alcohol problem, became homeless and was also the self-proclaimed “greatest writer who ever lived.”

The film and Flynn’s memoir detail their chance meeting while Flynn worked at a homeless shelter in Boston during the 1980’s while struggling with his own abuse problems, according to Altschul.

“It’s a story that no fiction writer would ever dare to pull off,” Altschul said.

Flynn’s reading went along with a PowerPoint presentation of pictures he took on the movie set.

Read more of
Sage’s story
online at
<http://ow.ly/ecXvP>

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By LELAND

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POLITICS



Global studies major and environmental club member Engels Garcia jots down ideas next to mechanical engineering major Cedie Bergonia and discusses plans to raise awareness about GMOs. **Photo by Thyra Phan / Spartan Daily**

GMO awareness raised by campus group

By Thyra Phan
@ThyraPhan

The issues of altering the genetic structure of a food product, such as a fruit’s DNA, was the topic of discussion at a meeting held by the Environmental Club.

The club planned to take action to raise awareness about genetically modified organisms in food.

According to Chara Bui, a senior environmental studies major and president of the Environmental Club, the club received fliers, pins and informational handouts from the Right to Know campaign for Proposition 37.

“We hope to raise awareness about genetically modified organisms by sharing how it impacted our own lives, nutrition and diet,” she said.

According to the California Voter Information Guide for the November ballot, Proposition 37 is an initiative that will require food to be labeled if it’s genetically modified.

Companies will also be prohibited from marketing genetically modified food as “natural.”

“There’s research that explains how corn from Monsanto can cause cancer,” said

Engels Garcia, a junior global studies major. “It’s important that we get to push these companies to produce more healthy things, rather than modifying them.”

Garcia said many people are not aware the foods they consume are genetically modified, and he hopes they will become more aware of what they put inside their bodies.

“We want to offer wisdom to people (about GMOs),” Bui said. “If people ask us questions, we can help them decide how they want to vote.”

During the meeting, the club discussed how it can take action to raise awareness about Proposition 37 and genetically modified organisms related to food.

A member proposed classroom presentations, where the club would rotate from one classroom to another.

“Several teachers have complained about students endorsing political campaigns,” Bui said. “We can’t push it on people, so we have to present information in a neutral way.”

The club discussed setting up tables outside the Student Union where students and faculty can pick up fliers, handouts and pins about the proposition.

The club plans to set up tables the last two weeks of October, semiweekly on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Cedie Bergonia, a freshman mechanical engineering major, said he will dress up in a banana costume while passing out information, because the club felt it was appropriate to dress up as a fruit.

The club will hang up fliers in several buildings and at any high-traffic location, such as the Student Union, according to Bui.

In addition to setting tables and hanging fliers, the club plans on airing “Food, Inc.” a documentary about America’s food industry, on Wednesday, Oct. 17, in the Montalvo room of the Student Union.

The club said it hopes the documentary will help raise awareness about genetically modified organisms and how we receive our food.

“I think it’s important for people to know what’s in their food,” Bergonia said. “It’s important for people to know when their food isn’t natural and if a scientist has changed a food’s structure.”

According to Bui, the Environmental Club is about raising awareness and creating environmental sustainability on campus through

campaigns and activities, such as participating in Earth Day and reducing the use of water bottles.

She said the club is open to anyone who is interested about the environment.

The club fluctuates from five to 10 members, but Bui said she expects more people to be involved.

The Environmental Club meets Wednesdays from 5 to 6:15 p.m. in the Montalvo room of the Student Union.

Thyra Phan is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @ThyraPhan.

SpartaGuide

Small Jazz Ensemble — “Latin Jazz & Funk”

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Today, Oct. 4
12:30 to 1:15 p.m.
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SJSpirit Weekly Prayer and Healing

SJSpirit
Thursdays
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Counseling Services
Monday, Oct. 8
12 to 1 p.m.
King Library Rooms 255 & 257

Salzburg Informational Session

Salzburg
Tuesday, Oct. 9
2 to 4 p.m.
Clark Hall 412

Flute Recital

The Listening Hour Concert Series
Tuesday, Oct. 9
12:30 to 1:15 p.m.
Music building Concert Hall
Free admission, doors open at 12:15 p.m.

SpartaGuide is provided to students, staff and faculty, free of charge. The deadline to submit is at noon, three working days prior to desired publication date. Entry forms are available in Spartan Daily, DBH 209. Send emails to spartandaily@gmail.com titled “SpartaGuide.” Space restrictions may require editing or exclusion of submissions. Entry is not guaranteed. Entries are printed in order of which they are received.

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ELECTION 2012

Young Americans: Make your voices heard



Follow Melanie Martinez on Twitter at @meltinez

Every election year, I see the young voter demographic overlooked and underrepresented by the officials we elect into office. I can't help but feel overwhelmed with frustration every time I watch a presidential candidate's speech and hear nothing more than a sentence or two addressing student loan rates and education. These topics impact this 18 - 24 year-old demographic more than any other age group and are imperative to the growth and prosperity of America, yet candidates rarely address these issues. Why are young American voters being ignored when we are the ones who will shape the future? The answer is short and

sweet: We don't care. While you youngsters may disagree about our indifference, or worse, just continue reading with glazed eyes, I assure you that we are completely indifferent to politics. According to data collected by the 2008 Census, adults 18 - 24 displayed the lowest percentage of voter turnout compared to any other age group in 2008. While the Census data shows 83 percent of this group voted, only 58.5 percent of adults 18 - 24 were even registered to vote for the 2008 presidential election. Let me reiterate how little we care – barely half of the young adults eligible to vote in 2008 registered, and not even all of those registered actually voted. So, why are we still wondering why politicians are overlooking our concerns

and needs when it's obvious we could care less about what is affecting our daily lives? When young and eligible voters refuse to take a mere 10 minutes to register and the 20 minutes to fill out ballots in November for the people who will represent us, why should we expect them to spend their whole terms caring about the things we consider important? I see these same people who refuse to register because it takes too long and the government, "is full of a bunch of useless talking heads," stand in line for hours waiting for the midnight release of a new superhero movie or video game release. Often, when I bring up political issues that are central to shaping our country into discussion with friends and fellow students, I'm met with the detached gazes of

our future. Yet, when the latest Snooki or Lindsay Lohan news hits the Internet, these same detached eyes become crazed with joy over the juicy gossip that infiltrates our conversations. Every semester, when tuition is due and loan rates skyrocket, I hear the cries and moans of upset young folk everywhere. I can't help but wonder where our priorities are as young Americans. Yeah, I feel you all out there because I'm in the same boat, but guess what? If we don't vote, we certainly can't expect our situations to change. When I look at my parents' generation and see snapshots and videos of political protests and riots in the '60s and '70s, I'm instantly filled with hope because there is proof that the youth was once engaged in

shaping America. Somehow, when I look at the vast amount of apathy towards political engagement today, that hope dwindles. Has our generation become so self-involved and obsessed with constant stimulation that we simply cannot take the time to vote or read up on issues affecting our lives? The Rock the Vote campaign is a flashy, cool and hip way to promote "political power for young people," where teeny-bopper bands such as 3OH!3 say they want you to vote. Despite the campaign's cool factor, the whole website just looks cheesy and is hard to take seriously. You can probably take the site as seriously as our nation's elected leaders take us – not at all. Just because young voters are indifferent now doesn't

mean our voices have to remain hidden. First, we can register to vote. Registering to vote has become increasingly easy and can now be completed online. Second, start reading up on issues and the presidential candidates. If you don't know where to start looking for information about the candidates, just tune in to a debate. If you weren't able to scope out last night's debate, the next presidential debate is Oct. 16. Third, start talking about politics! The best way to start becoming engaged is through starting a dialogue. Most importantly, vote. The only way to make a difference is to start taking action. Melanie Martinez is a Spartan Daily staff writer. Follow her on Twitter at @meltinez.

Let me reiterate how little we care – barely half of the young adults eligible to vote in 2008 registered, and not even all of those registered actually voted.

Are you in a bind? Need a voice of reason? Just ask Kelsey in her advice column!

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UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

			7					
5		3		6	1	4		
		7	3					
3	9		2			8	4	
		2				6		
	7	8			3		5	1
					8	5		
		9	4	5		3		8
				3				

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

How To Play

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3 by 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively. Check back daily for new sudoku puzzles and solutions.

Previous Sudoku Solution

2	1	8	4	6	7	9	5	3
3	7	6	8	5	9	4	1	2
5	9	4	2	1	3	6	8	7
4	6	7	9	2	5	8	3	1
9	3	2	7	8	1	5	4	6
1	8	5	3	4	6	7	2	9
6	2	9	5	3	4	1	7	8
7	5	3	1	9	8	2	6	4
8	4	1	6	7	2	3	9	5

Today's Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
20				21				22				
23								24				
25	26	27		28		29	30			31	32	33
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53	54					55	56				57	58
59												
60						61				62		
63						64				65		
66						67				68		

Previous Puzzle Answer:

P	U	M	A		U	P	S	P	A	N	I	C
O	N	I	C	E	N	O	T	S	L	O	S	H
U	I	K	E	N	O	O	E	A	B	U	S	E
O	V	E	R	T	H	E	I	L	L	N	E	W
B	R	A	C	E	N	E	M	E	S	I	S	
G	O	A										
P	A	T	L	A	S	P	A	A	S	P	O	P
S	T	O	P	T	H	E	B	L	E	E	D	I
P	O	E	T									
E	S	P										
C	O	S	R	U	P							
O	L	E										
T	I	M	E	D								
S	O	V	U	L	E							
R	E	S	I	N								

- ACROSS**
- 1 Usually deleted email
 - 5 Stationery store buy
 - 9 Depicted wordlessly
 - 14 "What ___ got here is a failure to communicate"
 - 15 Jazz legend Fitzgerald
 - 16 Cockama-mie
 - 17 Nutmeg coat
 - 18 Don ___ (womanizer)
 - 19 Hard-to-combine gas
 - 20 Put one's tax forms in the church offering?
 - 23 U.S.-Canada border lake
 - 24 Stop waf-ling
 - 25 "The Godfa-ther" group (with "the")
 - 28 Parts of feet
 - 31 London clock setting (Abbr.)
 - 34 It's all the rage
 - 36 Yale grad Whitney
 - 37 Geometry class
 - 38 What a calico is?
 - 42 Palindromic Holy Roman Emperor
 - 43 It may be concealed cosmetically
 - 44 Remove feathers
 - 45 Proposal response, sometimes
 - 46 Strike, essentially
 - 49 Beginning of "the season to be jolly"
 - 50 Hilo garland
 - 51 Explorer Ericson
 - 53 Exonerated for people on the playbill?
 - 60 Pencil need
 - 61 Tragic op-er
 - 62 Sitting on one's hands
 - 63 "___ Frutti" (Little Rich-ard tune)

- 30 TV Tarzan Ron
- 31 Filling material for a tiling job
- 32 Left Bank "Thanks"
- 33 Items on to-do lists
- 35 San Diego tourist magnet
- 37 Parky's penultimate parling word
- 3 Tel ___
- 4 Free-for-all
- 5 Become a member again
- 6 Escapes one's under-standing
- 7 Wing-shaped
- 8 Lion's pride, say
- 9 Miscom-munications
- 10 Sluggish by nature
- 11 "The Magic Mountain" author
- 12 Bible's first reported grandkid
- 13 Cub Scout division
- 21 Part of a Charlie Brown catchphrase
- 22 It's debat-able
- 25 The real ___ (the genu-ine article)
- 26 Speak pompously
- 27 Cotton sheets
- 29 Church principle
- 39 "West Side Story" song
- 40 Give it ___
- 41 Some kind of nerve
- 46 Jelly thick-ener
- 47 Slurred over
- 48 Kids' TV Street
- 50 Slow, in music
- 52 Hurt force-fully, as a Frisbee
- 53 Concert itinerary
- 54 Theater successes
- 55 Give lip to
- 56 Small, reddish monkey
- 57 Two-person starter home of note?
- 58 "Fantastic Four" actress
- 59 Jessica Take a breather
- 60 School's booster org.



Victim-blaming needs to stop



Julie Tran’s column appears every other Thursday.

As a young person in the 21st century, there are some things that have changed in my lifetime, like the style of clothes, music tastes and even lingo.

However, it seems the amount of sexual harassment and abuse has risen to exponential heights, and it’s pissing me off greatly.

From a simple wolf whistle heard afar to full-on rape, this form of attention is uncalled for and the victims are usually the ones who are blamed instead of the people who committed the crime.

Questions ranging from “What was she wearing?” or “What type of setting was she in?” to even the amount of alcohol a person consumes plays into the game of whodunit when it comes to sexual harassment, abuse or rape.

The whole victim-blaming process when it comes to women being subjected to these acts is a terrible

mindset for those who believe women (or men in some cases) are the ones at fault for having those actions placed on them in the first place.

A 2012 statistic from PreventConnect, an online organization dedicated to sexual assault and domestic violence prevention, says that 18.3 percent of women reported being sexually assaulted in their lifetime as opposed to 17.4 percent of women who actively smoke.

Why was smoking brought into the equation when this column is talking about sexual abuse?

Well, even by a small margin, the number of women who reported being sexually assaulted is larger than the number who reported being regular smokers.

Sure, the percentage may be somewhat insignificant, but then again there’s always the stigma of women admitting to being sexually assaulted and getting backlash from their family, friends or even their community.

A 2010 report from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey says that one out of every five women were reported to be rape victims and 80 percent of female victims have been raped before the age of 25.

Think about it, your

mother, daughter, sister, friend or loved one can be a statistic and most likely wouldn’t admit it because the act of admitting to being sexually assaulted is deemed too “embarrassing,” “shameful” or “disgusting.”

Not surprisingly, most of these incidents happen in the workplace or on school grounds and the definition of the term “sexual harassment” can vary depending on the location.

In a report by the American Equal Rights Association, an organization dedicated to female empowerment, sexual harassment is defined as “unwelcoming verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature that is severe or pervasive and affects working conditions or creates a hostile working environment.”

I have many friends as of right now who are currently facing sexual harassment in a place where they should feel safety and comfort, and trust me, it’s not pretty.

The actions range to a suggestive comment from a coworker to a brush of a hand against a thigh but it seems a majority of my friends get non-stop emails and texts on their phones.

It may start small and innocuous such as a greet-

ing, but then it escalates to questions such as: “What are you wearing right now? Where are you?” And even “Hey, are you down to have a night of fun with me – alone?”

Sure, they may read pretty bland on paper but try having those responses bombarding your inbox or phone in addition to having said harasser make physical moves that make your skin crawl.

There needs to be a sense of good conduct with people when it comes to practicing decent behavior in school, work or even in a public area.

The space between one person and another must be treated with great respect whether it is in the physical or emotional aspect.

Sex is an act that must have consent from both parties in order to make it work and harassment isn’t the way to even establish that connection.

Julie Tran is the Spartan Daily A&E Editor. Follow her on Twitter at @_itsjulieqt.

Think about it, your mother, daughter, sister, friend or loved one can be a statistic and most likely wouldn’t admit it ...

Letter to the editor

New unit cap change makes graduating more difficult

In response to Provost Junn’s announcement about next semester’s unit cap and to the article that ran Oct. 3 on the same topic.

An open letter to Provost Junn, I was outraged upon reading the memo describing the change to the unit cap. I reflected back on classes that I’ve taken that have involved more than 3 units, which included a 6 unit Honors Humanities program. Please note that the Humanities class was one of the most challenging and stimulating classes I’ve attended in my entire academic career. I shudder to think that students would be dissuaded from this opportunity simply because they cannot sacrifice the units necessary to take it.

Majors like engineering, biology and music will be hurt the most. At the point where you do not allow for petitions, except for graduating seniors, you will have no graduating seniors. Labs and ensemble performances will not be filled. These majors are not 120 units and would take six years, at least, to complete with this cap.

The current 15 unit cap is already hurting campus. I am a member of the SJSU Speech and Debate team, which lost several members because students could not add the extra unit needed to participate. Some were successfully able to appeal for the unit, however. Without the ability to petition, we are sure to lose prospective and current members of the prestigious team that has won national and international awards in the past few years.

As a fifth-year Spartan, there are students that I met my freshman year, that were older than I was, that still attend SJSU. These are not the exceptions to the rule either. I know zero students that graduated in four years without attending an outside university or community college to complete their units. I plead the Provost’s office to take statistics of the Spartan community before pushing the big red “unit cap” button.

Budget cuts are not an excuse to completely sever students’ chances of graduating in four years.

Sincerely,
Katrina Swanson
Fifth year English Major

Comment on these stories online at SpartanDaily.com

Students shouldn’t have to pay additional fees for class materials



Follow Eddie Fernandez on Twitter at @SD_EFernandez

As a student at SJSU, I am disappointed about how the university has not helped students with classroom materials and other needs.

Currently, I am enrolled in an introduction to ceramics course where I get the opportunity to build, sculpt and make things out of clay materials using my hands.

However, upon the first

days of instruction, my professor informed me that I will need to buy the items listed on her syllabus, either from her or at an art store.

Clay was the first thing on the list.

While my professor continues to go down the list of the items needed for the class throughout the fall semester, I am thinking to myself – didn’t I just pay almost \$4,000 in tuition for the semester?

What the hell? Where did all my tuition money go?

I now have to pay an additional \$50 out of my own pocket in classroom fees just so I can have clay and materials to sculpt pieces I make, otherwise I’ll just be in class staring at my classmates

while they get to build things.

SJSU fails to realize that I’m a college student barely getting by at month’s end.

I would rather spend that money on either my credit card, cellphone bill, or car payment.

The little money I have left over is used on food, so I can function while being on campus most of my day.

I find it embarrassing that SJSU makes its students buy classroom materials just to be enrolled in the course, and doesn’t take into account other student needs.

According to SJSU’s facts and figures web page, more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students attend the university.

If you do the math, 30,000 students times the amount of tuition is nearly millions of dollars.

Where the money goes is something that should be addressed more often by students.

Surely I am not the only student having to pay classroom fees, when that money could pay a bill to avoid late payment, which would result in a hit to my credit score.

I should be receiving extra credit for buying the materials needed, just like in high school.

If the classroom needed binder paper or tissue boxes, students would earn credit from their teachers for helping the school.

In addition, SJSU charges a

large sum of money for parking permits.

This causes its students to arrive, in some instances, hours before the start of their class just to get a decent spot to park.

Why is it that I have to park at a friend’s house, 20 minutes walking distance from SJSU just so I can save \$384 on a year’s worth of parking on campus?

Let me mention the weird-looking people I encounter while on my way to school.

What if something were to happen to me?

Would SJSU just put out another alert system on my behalf?

Again, what the hell? SJSU doesn’t take the ini-

tiative to understand students’ needs or financial situations.

Ultimately, the university just wants its monthly tuition installment payment, or amount paid in full, and forgets its students.

SJSU is putting the university first rather than the students who pay to keep the lights on and classroom doors open.

Although I am only one student out of tens of thousands of students attending SJSU, I hope that this article catches the attention of someone who can take the initiative to put students first.

Eddie Fernandez is a Spartan Daily senior staff writer. Follow him on Twitter at @SD_EFernandez.

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PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

Debate draws mixed reactions from audience around San Jose

During the first presidential debate for the 2012 election on Tuesday, people gathered throughout San Jose to watch. The Santa Clara County Democratic Party gathered in support of President Barack Obama. Santa Clara County Republicans gathered at Chevys Fresh Mex on Saratoga Avenue in support of former Governor Mitt Romney. People at the Obama Re-election

headquarters suite responded loudly to Obama's points, ready to bring him in for his second term. Republicans responded positively to Romney's points about Obama's spending, and clapped numerous times during his rebuttals. Rebecca Duran is the Spartan Daily features editor and a copy editor. Follow her on Twitter at @SD_RebeccaDuran.



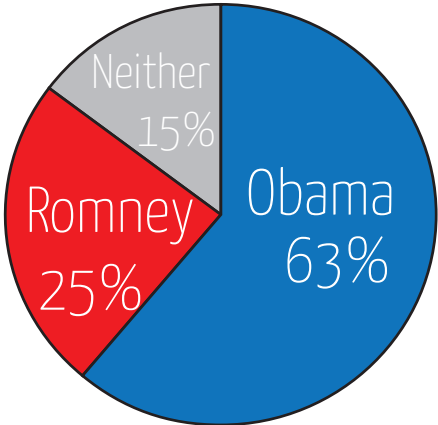
Below: Supporters applaud after the debate while at Obama Re-election Headquarters between Market Street and Santa Clara Street. Photo by Derik Irvin / Spartan Daily



Top: Former political science professor Terry Christensen and other political science members watch at the Hilton Hotel in San Jose. Photo by Basil Sar / Contributing Photographer

Right: Ana Victoria talks with junior journalism major Melissa Datu about Wednesday's debate. Photo by Derik Irvin / Spartan Daily

Presidential Debate
SJSU reaction
“Who won the first debate?”



Straw poll of 40 participants
Infographic by Jeffrey Cianci / Spartan Daily

Left: Audience members watch the first Presidential debate between Republican candidate Mitt Romney and President Barack Obama at Obama Re-election Headquarters between Market Street and Santa Clara Street. Photo by Derik Irvin / Spartan Daily

Bottom: Pins were given out at Obama Re-election Headquarters in San Jose to those who viewed the debate. Photo by Derik Irvin / Spartan Daily

